

SOURCES OF LOVE AND HATE

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against ordinary reality in an endless variety of ways, so that they gradually cease to dominate the child's appreciation of the real world, and his ego development.

Another facet of the real situation of the young human infant must now be noted, one of vital significance, without

ship, during which she "nearly drove her mother mad and tantalising behaviour, by there followed several difficult days in the train, and then a week's journey in a covered mule wagon, through country-infested by mountain lions and other real dangers. The whole family were confined for a week to this small enclosed space of the covered mule wagon, and all the family relations went on inside this space. During long moonlight nights the child lay awake, watching the father lie out on the tail-board of the wagon with a rifle cocked ready to defend the family and the fourteen mules from predatory animals and possible hostile natives, the moonlight shining on the father's bald head and the dark rifle. The child lay for hours in a state of tremendous tension, expecting the explosion of the rifle. It has not yet become clear in the analysis whether this actually happened, but it seems probable that it did. The terrors of such a situation can be well imagined, and the various hypochondriacal fears link up with these very plainly. Two identifications seem to have resulted from this situation: (a) The patient seems to have identified her own body with the mule wagon so that in phantasy she contains inside herself the father and the mother and the other children with all their mutual relations and antagonisms. This identification must have arisen through the long sustained moving and swaying of her own body in unison with the moving and swaying of the wagon, coupled with the intense emotional situation of her real relation to the rest of the family in this small enclosed space. (b) An identification of herself with her father's rifle. In her "panic" states she lies on her right-hand side with every muscle tensed up to rigidity, suffering the terror that if she moves she will fly out of herself. The patient's fear of "flying out of herself", when she lies rigid and taut before she screams, undoubtedly repeats her long tension and terror of the dangerous fire which she expected to fly out of her father's rifle. Actually it is her own hatred and aggression towards her parents and rival brothers and sisters and husband that she fears will "fly out," and in so doing, kill her and everyone else. On at least one occasion, moreover, when camp had been struck, and the native attendants had built a camp fire that made a warm glowing circle of light surrounded

by outer darkness and the bitter cold of night at a high altitude, the child had had a violent desire to defaecate, and had had to leave the safe circle of the camp fire, where there was a delicious smell of a cooking meal, and everything was warm and bright, to go out into the outer circle of dark and cold with unknown dangers ready to spring. It is this situation which links up with the feeling of cold in her soul and other terrors which later on centred round defaecatory processes.

A real experience at a still earlier age, which had a far-reaching psychic effect, may be quoted from M. N. Searl. "A patient with very severe agoraphobia was when a few months old discovered in a very seriously distressed condition—'black in the face'—as a result of her frantic efforts to satisfy herself by sucking at an empty bottle. I have no doubt that this incident provided a memory basis for a feeling of ego weakness whenever it was a question of battling alone with id wishes of particular intensity . . . " (Danger Situations of the Immature Ego, *J. /.* of *Psycho-Analysis*, - X, p. 425.)